



**Joint Meeting of
City of White Salmon and
Klickitat County Fire District 3 Commissioners**



	Joint Public Meeting - City of White Salmon and Fire District #3		
Date	May 10, 2023		
Time	19:00 (7pm)		
Location	119 NE Church, White Salmon WA 98672		
Join Zoom Meeting	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89385218806		
Meeting ID	893 8521 8806		
Pass Code	No Password		
Call in Numbers	669-900-6833	929-205-6099	301-715-8592
	346-248-7799	253-215-8782	312-626-6799

The recommendations for in-person meetings are subject to change. The district will continue to provide remote access for the public.

AGENDA

I. Open Meeting:

- Call to order.
City of White Salmon Council
KCFD3 Commissioners
- Attendance/Roll call
- Approval of Agenda

II. Business Items

- A. West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority Final Draft Plan – Planning Committee Selection and Motion to Approve Final Plan.
 1. Presentation – Bill Hunsaker and Wes Long
 2. Discussion
 3. Action

- B. Joint Resolution 2023-10 / 2023-05-562 Providing for the Submission to of the WKRFA for the August 1, 2023 Election pursuant to RCW 52.26
 1. Presentation – Bill Hunsaker and Wes Long
 2. Discussion
 3. Action

III. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn:



5/1/2023



Regional Fire Authority Plan

City of White Salmon and
Klickitat County Fire District #3



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Recognizing the challenges and opportunities that all fire jurisdictions are facing, the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3, through a working partnership of many years, agreed in the summer of 2022, to explore the different governance and delivery options available for operating and funding emergency services [fire; rescue; emergency medical]. The discussion grew momentum and in July of 2022, both elected Boards unanimously agreed --through a documented instrument called “The Fire Action Plan” – to seek counsel from a Greater White Salmon Community Task Force on the future and wisdom of providing emergency services from a regional approach. The West Klickitat Task Force met for several months and published a Final Report with a number of key recommendations which included a unanimous recommendation to amalgamate the current, separate fire agencies [Klickitat County Fire District #3 and the White Salmon Volunteer Fire Department] into a Regional Fire Authority as provided by RCW 52.26.

On behalf of the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3, and all, we want to thank everyone who participated in creating the future vision of our organization that will ultimately provide the citizens we serve and protect an enhanced opportunity to determine the level of service they desire.

Your efforts are recognized and very much appreciated.

CITY OF WHITE SALMON MAYOR

CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

West Klickitat Community Task Force Members:

City of White Salmon	Fire District #3
Tao Berman	Melinda Heindel
Michelle Mayfield	Allison Hensey
Nate Reagan	Sandy Montag [alt]
	Lloyd Olson
	Chris Wiggins
	Eric Wilson

Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee Members:

BEN GIANT, *City Council*
JASON HARTMANN, *City Council*
JIM RANSIER, *City Council*
TOM MONTAG, *Fire Commissioner*
BOB CONNER, *Fire Commissioner*
CHUCK VIRTIS, *Fire Commissioner*

City of White Salmon and KCFD3 Leadership, Staff and Personnel:

MARLA KEETHLER, *Mayor*
TROY RAYBURN, *City Administrator*
BILL HUNSAKER, *WSVFD Fire Chief*
WES LONG, *KCFD#3 Fire Chief*
ROZ PLUMB, *KCFD#3 District Secretary*
JENNIFER MCLEAN *Admin Assistant*

WEST KLICKITAT REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY

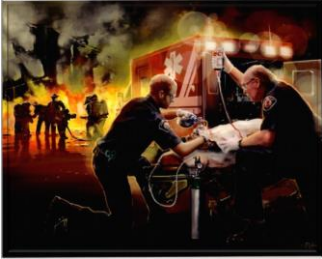
VISION STATEMENT

West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority is a community partnership of the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3, providing effective and sustainable Fire, Rescue and EMS services that maximize the resources entrusted to us to serve the needs of a changing community.

STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITY

To strategically position the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3, in a regional partnership that provides the community with effective and sustainable Fire, Rescue and EMS services.

- Effective Fire and lifesaving EMS service is dependent on three components:
 - **Fire/Hazard/Injury Prevention**
 - Safe buildings reduce fire risk, life loss, and reduce the long-term cost of emergency response;
 - Fuel reductions and other defensive programs reduce the risk of runaway wildland fires;
 - **Public Education**
 - Perfect emergency response is not possible, the public must be empowered to reduce their own risk and provide time critical actions prior to arrival of firefighters.
 - **Emergency Response**
 - Perfect prevention does not exist, emergency responders must arrive prior to flashover in fire, and brain death in non-breathing patients.
- The three legs of the Fire Service delivery system: *fire prevention, public education, and emergency response*, can only be sustained with adequate funding.
 - Level of Service performance objectives provide the measure of adequate service.
 - Prevention, Education and Response resources must be balanced to meet the Level of Service objective and assure the most service;
 - Adequate funding of the fire service delivery system is evidenced by its ability to meet level of service performance objectives.

	SECTION 1	BACKGROUND & NEEDS STATEMENTS
	DRAFT	April 2023

THE FEASIBILITY OF FIRE DEPARTMENT PARTNERSHIPS

During the past three decades, fire protection in America has undergone a process of remarkable transformation. Change began in the early 1970’s, roughly corresponding with the publication of *America Burning* by The National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control. Fire departments across the nation began to assume a greater role in the protection of citizens from many more hazards than in the past—quickly expanding from fire suppression to greater emphasis on fire prevention, emergency medical service, ambulance transport, hazardous materials, specialized operations, natural disasters, and (in the recent past) Homeland Security. *This was the dawning of the “ALL RISKS” first responder doctrine in the Fire Service in America.*

The process of change continues today, although some fire agencies feel that the progress made is not in the spirit of 1973’s *America Burning*. While many goals of *America Burning* (and of the *Fire Prevention and Control Act* of 1974 that followed) have not materialized, the responsibilities, scope of service, and emergency incidents of community fire departments continue to increase. Urban and suburban expansion have reached unprecedented levels across America, yet laws that limit the funding of public services increasingly restrict emergency services in those same communities. Nearly all such tax limit laws trace their roots to California’s Proposition 13, passed by voters in that state in 1978.

Well before the date of *America Burning* and the California tax revolt, private sector businesses recognized the benefit of merger and collaboration as a means to increase efficiency. For years, critics have advised the government to *reinvent itself* and to administer programs more like a business. An increasing number of executive fire officials and policymakers now recognize the moral imperative to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of emergency service resources through a process of strategic cooperation.

Consequently, what was once relatively uncommon in the fire protection industry has become more widespread as fire department leaders react to internal forces promoting maximization of resources and the external drivers (i.e., expanding scope of service, increased populations, rapid community development, and limited capital).

More and more, local fire agencies partner with other jurisdictions to eliminate service duplication and to focus resources on providing essential services. Such strategic alliances between fire protection agencies began in areas experiencing rapid economic development, primarily

surrounding burgeoning West Coast cities like Los Angeles, San Diego, Denver, Seattle, Salt Lake City, and Portland. Now, as the economic development that so characterized large metropolitan centers during the last two decades spreads and external forces act to limit the ability of the once isolated surrounding communities to unilaterally react to the change; the *strategic partnership* of emergency service organizations becomes an alternative more frequently considered by policymakers.

There are over 350 fire protection districts and regional fire authorities and 270 cities and towns in the State of Washington today. In the past ten years, the State of Washington has experienced:

- A remarkable increase in the number of cooperative efforts, consolidations, and fire protection district mergers.
- An increase in the number of cities and fire protection districts developing and improving cooperative services, consolidations and/or mergers and inter-local contractual agreements for emergency services. Examples are: City of Sumner and East Pierce Fire & Rescue; Cities of Auburn, Algona, and Pacific; and Lewis County Fire Protection District #12 and the City of Centralia; Clark County 11, 12 and the City of Woodland.
- A consistent pace of cities that have annexed into fire protection districts such as City of Battleground into Clark County Fire District 3.
- Legislative authorization to form Regional Fire Protection Services Authorities (RFA's).

Many factors have led to the increase in these cooperative agreements, mergers, or annexations. These factors include:


- Recent committee studies and state legislation encouraging or providing incentives for cooperative services.
- State and federal grant criteria requires or allows for higher scoring for entities with cooperative or consolidated services.
- Tax limitation initiatives and referendums have reduced the revenue available to many counties, cities, towns, and special purpose districts, thereby increasing the need to consolidate activities to achieve efficiencies and reduce operating costs.
- The cost of emergency operations; the cost of purchasing emergency apparatus and equipment; the cost of constructing fire station facilities; and the cost of fire suppression equipment, emergency medical and rescue equipment, and clothing have significantly increased.

It was in a climate of ongoing regional change and continued challenges to a sustainable level of service in the current governance model (Interlocal Agreement --ILA) that the Klickitat Fire District #3 and the City of White Salmon City Council selected, commissioned and facilitated the

West Klickitat Community Task Force with the sole mission of reviewing and analyzing the respective fire departments data, history, strengths, short-falls and gaps in service to the community. The resultant *conclusions, findings* and *recommendations* of the West Klickitat Task Force were memorialized in a **Task Force Final Report** (included in part as **Appendix A**). Based on this background, the *findings* and *recommendations* of the Task Force identified as the primary and pivotal recommendation for achieving a sustainable level of service to be *regionalizing emergency services by forming a Regional Fire Authority*.

Based on this background the Task Force has identified the following conclusions for the formation of the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority:

1. The ability to respond to emergency situations by the respective fire agencies for fire protection, rescue and emergency medical services has not kept up or progressed with the community's needs; community changes and growth; cultural shifts; increased demands and diversity for emergency services and special service demands.
2. Providing a fire protection, rescue and emergency medical service system requires a collaborative partnership and responsibility among local and regional governments and the private sector. Vital elements of that collaborative effort must be a focus on levels of service and a dedicated and sustainable funding mechanism to meet those demands and standards.
3. There are efficiencies to be gained by regional fire protection, rescue, and emergency medical service delivery, while maintaining the balance of local control between the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3.
4. Timely development of significant projects can best be achieved through enhanced funding options for regional fire protection, emergency services, specialized rescue, hazardous material mitigation, using already existing taxing authority to address fire protection and emergency service needs, with new authority to address critical fire protection projects and emergency services.
5. The City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3 have had a cooperative partnership, striving to provide the highest level of fire and emergency services to our citizens within the confines of available resources, the creation of an RFA will continue this partnership on a permanent basis with a stable governance and financial system.

	SECTION 2	DEFINITIONS	
	<i>DRAFT</i>	April 2023	
	<i>Revision</i>	The DEFINITIONS section of the WKRFA Plan is subject to amendment by a majority vote of the WKRFA Governance Board.	
	<i>Revised</i>		

DEFINITIONS

The definitions in this section apply throughout this **WKRFA Plan**, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

1. "**Board**" or "**Governance Board**" or "**Governing Board**" means the Governance body of the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority as defined in Section 5 of this document.
2. "**City**" means the City of White Salmon.
3. "**Effective Date**" means September 30th, 2023, pending approval of the WKRFA Plan by voters of the Participating Jurisdictions.
4. "**Klickitat Fire District #3**" or "**KCFD#3**" means Klickitat County Fire District #3—the jurisdiction which provides emergency service around the greater City of White Salmon community and other communities.
5. "**Participating Jurisdictions**" means the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3.
6. "**West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority**" or "**WKRFA**" means the Regional Fire Authority defined in this plan whose boundaries are coextensive with the City and KCFD#3.
7. "**RCW**" means Revised Code of Washington.
8. "**Regional Fire Protection Service Authority**" or "**Regional Fire Authority**" or "**RFA**" means a regional fire protection service authority formed pursuant to chapter 52.26 RCW. An RFA is a municipal corporation, an independent taxing authority within the meaning of Article VII, Section 1 of the state Constitution, and a taxing district within the meaning of Article VII, Section 2 of the state Constitution.
9. "**Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee**" or "**Planning Committee**" means the advisory committee created under RCW 52.26.030 to create and propose to the City of White

West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority Plan


Salmon elected officials and KCFD#3 Board of Fire Commissioners the Regional Fire Authority Plan.

10. "**West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority Plan**," "**WKRFA Plan**" or "**Plan**" means a regional fire authority plan, in accordance with RCW 52.26.040(3)(b), for the development and financing of the RFA, including, but not limited to, specific capital projects, fire operations and emergency service operations, and the preservation and maintenance of existing or future facilities and services.

WKRFA SECTION 2 PLAN REVISION DISPOSITION:

The **DEFINITIONS** section of the **WKRFA Plan** is subject to amendment or revision only by a majority vote of the WKRFA Governance Board.

DRAFT

	SECTION 3	FORMATION AUTHORITY	
	<i>DRAFT</i>	April 2023	
	<i>Revision</i>	The FORMATION AUTHORITY section of the WKRFA Plan is subject to amendment or revision by a majority vote of the WKRFA Governance Board.	
	<i>Revised</i>		

A. STATUTORY REFERENCE.

1. Authority for the formation of a Regional Fire Authority by the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3 (Participating Jurisdictions) is authorized by Chapter 52.26 RCW.

B. PLANNING COMMITTEE.


1. Authority to form and operate a Planning Committee is authorized by Chapter 52.26.030 and 52.26.040 RCW.
2. The Planning Committee included three (3) members of the White Salmon City Council and three (3) Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3.
3. The mission and goal of the Planning Committee was to develop and present to the elected officials of each participating jurisdiction the **WEST KLICKITAT REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY PLAN [WKRFA Plan]**.
4. Upon development, approval, and adoption of the **WKRFA Plan** by the Planning Committee, the **WKRFA Plan** shall be presented to each participating jurisdiction’s elected legislative body for approval and adoption by resolution for placement of the **WKRFA Plan** on the ballot for consideration by a vote of the people within the boundaries of the proposed RFA.
5. Upon approval of the **WKRFA Plan** by the elected legislative body of each participating jurisdiction, the Participating Jurisdictions shall draft a joint ballot title, give notice as required by law for ballot measures, and perform other duties as required to put the **WKRFA Plan** before the voters of the Participating Jurisdictions for approval or rejection as a single ballot measure.

C. WKRFA PLAN IMPLEMENTATION.

1. The current independent agencies shall remain in effect until the Effective Date and no current activity or operation will change prior to the Effective Date.
2. Should the **WKRFA Plan** be approved by 50% of the voters of the Participating Jurisdictions, the **West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority** shall be formed on the Effective Date, in accordance with RCW 52.26.070 and all fire and emergency medical service operations provided by the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire District #3 shall be assumed by the WKRFA.
3. If the Plan is not approved by 50% of the voters, then operations relating to the services set forth herein shall remain unchanged.
4. Upon voter approval of the **WKRFA Plan**, the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire Protection District #3 shall continue to exist as Washington State Municipal Corporations. The exclusive purpose of the continued existence of Klickitat County Fire District #3 shall be to levy and collect taxes and/or other fire protection district revenue to be transferred to the **WKRFA** until such time as the **WKRFA** collects its own revenues; to provide representation to the newly formed WKRFA Governance Board; and to certify taxes in Fire District #3 until the debt service is satisfied for the General Obligation Bond.
5. The transfer of the powers, duties, functions, and personnel of the Participating Jurisdictions shall not affect the validity of any act performed before the creation of the **WKRFA**.
6. If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of the WKRFA Plan is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the WKRFA Plan.

WKRFA SECTION 3 PLAN REVISION DISPOSITION:

The **FORMATION AUTHORITY** section of the **WKRFA Plan** is subject to amendment or revision by a majority vote of the WKRFA Governance Board.

	SECTION 4	JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES	
	<i>DRAFT</i>	April 2023	
	<i>Revision</i>	The JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES section of the WKRFA Plan is subject to amendment or revision by a majority vote of the WKRFA Governance Board .	
	<i>Revised</i>		

A. STATUTORY REFERENCE.

1. The jurisdictional boundaries of the **WKRFA** at formation shall be defined pursuant to RCW 52.26.020(2), and any alterations shall be made only in accordance with, the **WKRFA Plan**, chapter 52.26 RCW or other applicable state law, as it may be amended from time to time.

B. JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES ON DATE OF FORMATION.

1. On the Effective Date, the jurisdictional boundaries of the **WKRFA** shall be the legal boundaries of the Participating Jurisdictions.


C. CHANGES IN JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES AFTER FORMATION OF WKRFA.

1. *Boundary Changes that do not require a WKRFA Plan amendment.*
 - a. **City annexations of areas included within the boundaries of KCFD#3.** Such annexations will not affect the **WKRFA** since the areas will already be within the **WKRFA** boundaries. Pursuant to RCW 52.26.290 there will be no required asset or employee transfers between the fire protection district and the city.
 - b. **City annexations of areas not included within KCFD#3.** On the Effective Date of such annexation, the territory annexed shall automatically be included within the boundaries of the **WKRFA** pursuant to RCW 52.26.290. The territory added to the **WKRFA** by such annexation shall be subject to the taxation, charges, and bonded indebtedness (if approved as part of the annexation process) of the **WKRFA**. Any transfer of assets or employees that occurs as a result of annexation shall be between the transferring entity and the **WKRFA**.

- c. **Annexation of a portion of KCFD#3 by a city that is not a participating jurisdiction in the WKRFA.** On the Effective Date of such annexation, the territory annexed shall automatically be removed from the boundaries of the **WKRFA**. In this situation the **WKRFA** shall not be obligated to transfer employees or assets of **WKRFA**, and the annexing city shall be restricted solely to assets and employees of the fire district, if any.
 - d. **KCFD#3 Annexations.** Pursuant to RCW 52.26.090(g), KCFD#3 shall have the authority to conduct annexations of unincorporated territory adjacent to KCFD#3 pursuant to the statutory authority and procedures set forth in Chapter 52.04.001 through RCW 52.04.051.
 - e. **KCFD#3 Partial Mergers.** Pursuant to RCW 52.26.090(g), KCFD#3 shall have the authority to participate in the partial merger process under the authority and pursuant to the procedures set forth in RCW 52.06.090 and .100.
2. *Boundary Changes that require a WKRFA Plan Amendment.*
- a. **Annexations of Adjacent Fire Protection Jurisdictions.** The boundaries of the WKRFA may be expanded to include adjacent fire protection jurisdictions through the Plan Amendment and annexation procedures set forth at RCW 52.26.300.

WKRFA SECTION 4 PLAN REVISION DISPOSITION:

The **JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES** section of the **WKRFA Plan** is subject to amendment or revision by a majority vote of the **WKRFA** Governance Board.

	SECTION 5	GOVERNANCE and ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	
	<i>Draft</i>	April 2023	
	<i>Revision</i>	The GOVERNANCE and ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE section of the WKRFA Plan is subject to amendment or revision by a majority vote of the WKRFA Governance Board after two years.	
	<i>Revised</i>		

A. STATUTORY REFERENCE.

1. The authority to provide *governance* for the Regional Fire Authority is provided by RCW 52.26.080 and RCW 52.26.090.

B. GOVERNING BOARD STRUCTURE AND OPERATION.


1. **Effective Date.** As provided by RCW 52.26.080, the **WKRFA Governing Board** shall be established and have authority as of the Effective Date.
2. **Authority:** The **WKRFA Governing Board** shall have all authority as outlined in RCW 52.26.090 and shall implement the necessary instruments to form, govern and operate the **WKRFA** in accordance with RCW 52.26.080
3. **Governing Board:** The **WKRFA Governing Board** shall be populated by the three (3) sitting Fire Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire District #3 and two (2) sitting City Council members from the City of White Salmon.
4. **Governing Rules.** The elected **WKRFA Governing Board** shall develop and adopt governance policies and rules for the **WKRFA Governing Board** to conduct business beginning September 30, 2023 in accordance with RCW 52.26.080.
5. **Authority.** The **WKRFA Governing Board** shall have all the power and authority granted governing boards under Washington State law and shall include the power and authority to make any decisions appropriate for the **WKRFA** and for matters related to Title 52 RCW.

6. **Compensation of Governing Board.** Commissioners of the Governing Board will receive compensation in the same manner and under the same conditions as provided by law for commissioners of a fire protection district organized under Title 52 RCW.

WKRFA SECTION 4 PLAN REVISION DISPOSITION:

The **GOVERNANCE and ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE** section of the **Plan** may be amended after two years by a majority vote of the **WKRFA Governance Board**.

DRAFT

	SECTION 6	FUNDING and FINANCE	
	<i>DRAFT</i>	April 2023	
	<i>Revision</i>	The FUNDING and FINANCE section of the WKRFA Plan is subject to amendment by the WKRFA Governing Board except when voter approval is required by statute.	
	<i>Revised</i>		

A. STATUTORY REFERENCE.

1. The authority to levy taxes and provide funding for the **WKRFA** is provided by chapters RCW 52.26, RCW 84.52 and RCW 84.55 as such statutes may be amended from time to time.

B. WKRFA REVENUES:

1. The **WKRFA** shall be authorized to levy and collect taxes in accordance with RCW 52.26.050 (1) (b) subject to the following restrictions:

OPTION #1

- a. The **WKRFA** shall be authorized to levy the authorized rate for a regional fire authority per RCW 52.26.140 [with a full-time employee]. The **WKRFA** shall be initially funded beginning in fiscal year 2024 by an authorized *ad valorem property tax* of **\$0.76 cents** per thousand of assessed valuation. **\$0.69 cents** of the *ad valorem property tax* shall be designated for WKRFA Administration and Emergency Operations; **\$0.07 cents** of the *ad valorem tax* shall be dedicated for the established Apparatus Replacement; Equipment Replacement [threshold of \$5,000] and Facility Component Replacement funds.

OPTION #2

- a. The **WKRFA** shall be authorized to levy the authorized rate for a regional fire authority per RCW 52.26.140 [with a full-time employee], which is \$1.50. The **WKRFA** shall be initially funded beginning in fiscal year 2024 by an authorized *ad valorem property tax* of **\$0.76 cents** per thousand of assessed valuation. **\$0.69 cents** of the *ad valorem property tax* shall be designated for WKRFA Administration and Emergency Operations; **\$ 0.07 cents** of the *ad valorem tax* shall be dedicated for the established Apparatus Replacement; Equipment Replacement [threshold of \$5,000] and Facility Component Replacement funds.

- a. The **WKRFA Governance Board** shall adopt an annual budget and set its levy amount at a rate each year in accordance with state law and the adopted budget policies of the **WKRFA**. Any subsequent tax levies shall be limited by the limit factor under RCW 84.55.0101 unless the **WKRFA** voters approve a levy lid lift pursuant to RCW 84.55.050.
2. Within the first year of operations, the **WKRFA Governing Board** shall develop and adopt long-range budget forecasts, projections and assignments based upon adopted replacement fund matrices and level of service requirements as recommended by the **West Klickitat Task Force Final Report**.
3. To the extent permitted by law, the **WKRFA Governance Board** shall have the authority to pursue and contract with agencies and entities exempt from property taxes in accordance with RCW 52.30.020 and related statutes.
4. The **WKRFA Governing Board** shall have the authority to pursue, subject to any applicable statutory voter approval requirements and **WKRFA Plan** Amendment, if required, all additional revenue sources authorized by law including but not limited to revenue sources specifically identified in Title 52 RCW and Title 84 RCW that are not otherwise addressed in chapter 52.26 RCW.

C. OPERATIONAL FINANCING AND WKRFA FUNDS.

1. The operational and administrative WKRFA budget for the remaining three months of 2023 shall be funded by the designated budget funds of the Participating Jurisdictions authorized for 2023.
2. The operational and administrative budget for fiscal year 2024 for the newly formed **WKRFA** shall be established by the **Governing Board** in 2023 after certification of the ballot measure and submitted according to the Klickitat County Treasurer's schedule.
3. The funding of the **WKRFA** operations and administration for fiscal year 2024 (January 1st, 2024 – May 15th 2024) shall be furnished by the respective reserve/replacement funds which will be transferred by the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire District #3 in accordance with Section 6 (F) of this **Plan**. Said "replacement fund" monies transferred over to the **WKRFA** on the Effective Date shall be used for the first five months of WKRFA operations but shall be refunded to the respective **WKRFA** replacement funds as 2024 property taxes are collected.

E. DEBT.

1. The City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire District #3 shall each retain its respective General Obligation bonded indebtedness existing on the Effective Date and each

shall continue to impose its individual voter-approved special levies until such debt is fully redeemed or defeased.

2. All other instruments of debt, financial liability or deferred payments owed by Klickitat Fire District #3 or the City of White Salmon fire department shall be transferred to the **WKRFA** on the Effective Date.

F. TRANSFER OF ASSETS.

1. On the Effective Date, Klickitat Fire District #3 shall immediately transfer all remaining and future financial assets to the **WKRFA**.
2. On the Effective Date, the City of White Salmon shall immediately transfer any remaining fire department equipment replacement financial assets to the **WKRFA**.
3. At such time as property taxes adequately fund the approved operational and administrative budget of the **WKRFA**, the Participating Jurisdictions fund transfers shall be temporarily used for operations until such time as the **WKRFA** tax levy is collected in 2024.
4. Except as otherwise provided in this **WKRFA Plan**, on the Effective Date, all reports, documents, surveys, books, records, files, papers, or written material in the possession of the participating fire protection jurisdictions pertaining to fire protection and emergency services powers, functions and duties shall be transferred to the **WKRFA**.
5. On the Effective Date, all real property and personal property including cabinets, furniture, office equipment, motor vehicles, and other tangible property used by the Participating Jurisdictions in carrying out the fire protection and emergency services powers, functions, and duties shall be transferred to the **WKRFA**. City water systems including fire hydrants and related appurtenances shall not be transferred and shall remain City property. All funds, credits, or other assets held by the Participating Jurisdictions in connection with the fire protection and emergency services powers, functions, and duties shall be transferred and credited to **WKRFA**.
6. On the Effective Date, ownership of all KCFD#3 fire stations shall be transferred to the **WKRFA**. The bonds issued for the original acquisition and construction of the KCFD#3 fire station shall not be assumed by the **WKRFA**, but shall remain obligations of, and shall continue to be repaid by KCFD#3 taxpayers, until they are fully repaid in 2038.
7. White Salmon fire station facilities:
 - a. The White Salmon fire station, at 119 NE Church Avenue, occupies the top floor in a multi-level, dual purpose, dual funded facility—shared with the City of White Salmon Public Works Department which occupies and operates from the lower level. [See **Appendix C**]
 - b. On the Effective Date, the entire upper floor of the White Salmon Fire Station shall be leased to the **WKRFA** by the City of White Salmon at no additional consideration.


- c. The current areas of the upper floor [fire station] under current use as the City of White Salmon City Council Chambers shall remain in its current configuration for use by the City of White Salmon until such time that the City of White Salmon and the WKRFA Governance Board develop and approve a transition plan to relocate the City Council Chambers to another location to allow for expansion of WKRFA to meet its operational needs.
- d. The City of White Salmon shall retain ownership of all furnishings, equipment, and AV amenities located in the Council Chambers of the fire station which will transition to a new Council Chambers per the transition agreement.
- e. The WKRFA shall assume minor repair and maintenance costs for the fire station portion of the facility commencing on the Effective Date. The City of White Salmon, as the leaser, shall remain responsible for major component repair or replacement.
- f. Utility costs for the fire station portion shall be negotiated between the participating jurisdictions beginning on the Effective Date. The WKRFA Executive Staff and City of White Salmon Executive Staff shall formulate a shared formula based upon occupation times and use by both jurisdictions.

Both Participating Jurisdictions agree to approving a Council Chambers “transition plan and timeline” during the first year of WKRFA operations.

8. Except as otherwise provided in this **WKRFA Plan**, any appropriations made to the participating jurisdictions for carrying out the fire protection and emergency services powers, functions, and duties shall be transferred and credited to the **WKRFA**.
9. The respective volunteer associations shall remain autonomous until such time, at the agreement of both volunteer groups, they merge into a single, non-profit volunteer association.
10. Except as otherwise provided in this West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority Plan, whenever any question arises as to the transfer of any personnel, funds, books, documents, records, papers, files, equipment, or other tangible property used or held in the exercise of the powers and the performance of the duties and functions transferred, the WKRFA Governing Board of the participating fire protection jurisdiction shall make a determination as to the proper allocation.

WKRFA SECTION 6 PLAN REVISION DISPOSITION:

The **FUNDING AND FINANCE** section of the **WKRFA Plan** is subject to amendment or revision by the Governing Board except when voter approval is required by statute.

	SECTION 7	DEPLOYMENT; OPERATIONS, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & SUPPORT SERVICES	
	<i>Adopted</i>	April 2023	
	<i>Revision</i>	The DEPLOYMENT/ OPERATIONS and EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT section of The WKRFA Plan is subject to amendment by a majority vote of the WKRFA Governance Board .	
	<i>Revised</i>		

A. STATUTORY REFERENCE.

1. The authority for the **WKRFA** to operate and establish LEVELS OF SERVICE components of the **WKRFA Plan** is provided in RCW 52.26.040, .090 and chapter 52.33 RCW.

B. EMERGENCY SERVICES AND SERVICE LEVELS:

1. On the Effective Date, **WKRFA** shall be organized and managed administratively and operationally with the leadership as shown in **Appendix B** of this plan.
2. All current operational and service delivery aspects of Klickitat County Fire District #3 and the White Salmon Volunteer Fire Department shall be transferred to the **WKRFA** on the Effective Date unless otherwise stated in this **WKRFA Plan**. **WKRFA** shall continue to provide all emergency services in the manner and at the levels of service currently provided.
3. Current staffing models, standards of coverage, deployment standards, field operations, command staffing, and operational policies and procedures shall be transferred and continued at the current level of service on the Effective Date.
4. In recognition for the efforts and recommendations of the West Klickitat Task Force, the Final Report of the Task Force has been provided in **Appendix A** which includes recommendations for emergency services, levels of service and desired response performance goals.
5. This **WKRFA Plan** requires that **WKRFA** undertake an organizational Master and Deployment Plan exercise in 2024 to adopt more specific targets for services, service levels and delivery models based upon the ‘all risks’ recommendation of the West Klickitat Task Force. As a result of that exercise, the Governance Board shall formally adopt, by resolution, service delivery plans, standards of coverage and deployment models.
6. As recommended by the West Klickitat Task Force, the **WKRFA** shall, as a high priority, engage immediately in 2024 to fill staffing positions to ramp up a rigorous and perpetual

“community-based volunteer recruiting, training, maintaining and retaining” program to increase and maintain levels of response and support staffing defined in the 2024 Master and Deployment plans. Said program shall include well-defined and executed training standards for all levels of the volunteer program supported by training and certification programs provided at the local level.

7. All current automatic aid and mutual aid agreements, and any other contractual services agreements, documents, or memorandums currently in place with the participating jurisdictions, shall be transferred over on to **WKRFA** on the Effective Date to provide continuous, seamless readiness and emergency services coverage.
8. On the Effective Date, **WKRFA** shall implement advanced record management systems [RMS] for incident response, training and all activities relating to operational and support services of the **WKRFA**. The RMS shall record, process, and regularly report its incident activity and response performance data collectively as an RFA *and* individually between the rural and the city. The **WKRFA** will annually compile and generate an annual report that will be available to the public and provided to the City of White Salmon.
9. As a component of the 2024 **WKRFA** Master and Deployment Plan, considerations and contingencies shall be incorporated to develop an alternate, subordinate EMS response and transport delivery service to supplement the current EMS District system.
10. On the Effective Date, emergency management services within the boundaries of the **WKRFA** shall be provided as follows:
 - a. Within the City. The City of White Salmon contracts for emergency management services from Klickitat County. **WKRFA** will actively participate with emergency management services with the County for the City pursuant to an inter-local agreement to be negotiated after the Effective Date.
 - b. Within unincorporated **Klickitat** County. Klickitat County shall remain the provider of emergency management services, however, **WKRFA** shall coordinate, liaison and facilitate joint planning and mitigation efforts between City emergency management planning and operations efforts and Klickitat County emergency management planning and operations.


C. SUPPORT SERVICES.

1. All current aspects, provisions, levels of service of Klickitat Fire District #3 and the City of White Salmon Support Services programs shall be transferred over to the **WKRFA** on the Effective Date.
2. As a part of the **WKRFA Master and Deployment Plan**, the **WKRFA** shall develop and adopt a new Internal Support Services Plan to maintain a state of readiness and ensure a full scope of services and support to the responders, staff, and internal customers of **WKRFA**.

**D. WKRFA SECTION 7 OPERATIONS AND DEPLOYMENT PLAN
REVISION DISPOSITION:**

The **DEPLOYMENT/OPERATIONS, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT and SUPPORT SERVICES** section of The **WKRFA Plan** is subject to amendment by a majority vote of the **WKRFA Governance Board**.

DRAFT

	SECTION 8	ADMINISTRATIVE/MANAGEMENT/ PERSONNEL COMPONENTS	
	<i>Draft</i>	April 2023	
	<i>Revision</i>	The ADMINISTRATIVE, MANAGEMENT and PERSONNEL COMPONENTS section of the WKRFA Plan is subject to amendment by a majority vote of the WKRFA Governance Board .	
	<i>Revised</i>		

A. STATUTORY REFERENCE.

1. The authority for the **WKRFA** to establish and provide Administrative, Management and Personnel components is provided in RCW 52.26.040 and RCW 52.26.100.

B. ORGANIZATION AND STAFFING.


1. On the effective date, the **WKRFA** shall be organized as provided in **Appendix B** of the **WKRFA Plan** until such time --in the first year of operations --the **WKRFA Master and Deployment Plan** determines an updated hierarchy.
2. On the Effective Date, the Fire Chief of Klickitat County Fire District #3 shall serve as the Fire Chief of the **WKRFA**. The Fire Chief shall at all times be appointed and serve at the pleasure of the **WKRFA Governance Board**.
3. The existing staff and volunteers of Klickitat Fire District #3 shall transfer to the **WKRFA** to fulfill assigned duties as outlined in the organizational structure in **Appendix B**
4. The existing staff and volunteers of the White Salmon Volunteer Fire Department shall transfer to the **WKRFA** to fulfill assigned duties as outlined in the organizational structure in **Appendix B**.
5. All current Volunteers shall be transferred on the Effective Date at their current rank, grade, and seniority. The administrative staff of Klickitat County Fire District #3 shall transfer over to become the **WKRFA** administrative staff.
6. All current administrative and business functions, agreements, documents, operations, and policies and procedures from the participating jurisdictions shall transfer over to the **WKRFA** in accordance with Section 7.

7. The current Klickitat County Fire District #3 Fire District Secretary shall be appointed and assume full duties as the **WKRFA Administrative Manager** on the Effective Date.
8. Unless otherwise noted in the **WKRFA Plan**, the transfer of authority and the administration and management of the **WKRFA** shall be seamless and shall initially model the current administrative and management components of Klickitat Fire District #3.

WKRFA SECTION 8 PLAN REVISION DISPOSITION:

The **ADMINISTRATIVE/MANAGEMENT/PERSONNEL COMPONENTS** section of The **WKRFA Plan** is subject to amendment by a majority vote of the **WKRFA Governance Board**.

DRAFT

	SECTION 9	HAZARD PREVENTION, PUBLIC EDUCATION SERVICES	
	<i>DRAFT</i>	April 2023	
	<i>Revision</i>	The HAZARD PREVENTION, PUBLIC EDUCATION SERVICES section of the WKRFA Plan is subject to amendment by a majority vote of the WKRFA Governance Board .	
	<i>Revised</i>		

A. STATUTORY REFERENCE.

1. The authority for the **West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority** to provide Fire/Hazard Prevention, Public Education and Fire Investigation components is provided in RCW 52.26.040, RCW 52.26.090(2), RCW 52.12.031 (3),(6) and (7)

B. SERVICES PROVIDED.

1. Klickitat County and the City of White Salmon shall continue to maintain their authority to adopt and enforce fire and life safety codes per RCW and shall continue to provide prevention and investigation services in the unincorporated portions of **WKRFA** and within the city limits of White Salmon under that authority.
2. The City shall maintain the authority to provide code enforcement activities for non-compliant properties and other fire prevention/safety requirements.
3. The **WKRFA** shall provide fire/hazard prevention and *public safety education services* in the same manner and at the same level as the current Klickitat Fire District #3 with enhancements in public outreach, public programs and public participation as recommended by the **West Klickitat Task Force Final Report**.
4. The City of White Salmon and the **WKRFA** may enter into a post RFA interlocal agreement for fire prevention inspection/notification services, pre-construction plan reviews and other fire/hazard safety activities within the city limits of White Salmon.
5. The **WKRFA** shall work to comply with and maintain the current City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire District #3 Fire Rating with the Washington Survey and Rating Bureau.

WKRFA SECTION 9 PLAN REVISION DISPOSITION:

The **HAZARD PREVENTION, PUBLIC EDUCATION SERVICES** section of The **WKRFA Plan** is subject to amendment by a majority vote of the **WKRFA Governance Board**.

DRAFT

Appendices

DRAFT



REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY PLAN

City of White Salmon and Klickitat
County Fire District #3

Winter 2022/23

Report to the West Klickitat County Fire District 3 Fire Commissioners and White Salmon City Council

FINAL DRAFT February 20, 2023

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A. COMMUNITY TASK FORCE OVERVIEW

First, to the volunteer firefighters of the White Salmon Fire Department and Klickitat County Fire District 3:

Being part of this task force has given us a deeper appreciation for how essential your commitment and service is and has been to the safety and well-being of our communities.

Please accept our ongoing and heartfelt thanks.

BACKGROUND

Many cities and fire districts are seeking strategies for more efficient and effective *emergency service delivery models*. Communities continue to grow and create an increasing diversity of demands to be addressed by emergency services. Changes in demographics, wildfire risk, increased recreational activities and other emergency service demands are challenging the current methods and models that Volunteer Fire Departments have utilized for decades.

The Elected representatives of the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire District 3, along with fire department leadership, have recognized these challenges. In mid-2022, they jointly developed and approved a *Fire Action Plan* focused on improving the current level of emergency services in the region and beginning a discussion about the potential benefits of delivering emergency services through a regional model. They hired *mHc Associates*, a Washington State Emergency Services Consulting firm, to assist them with convening and facilitating a citizen task force with members from both the city and the district. The volunteer West Klickitat Fire Districts Task Force met between October 2022 - February 2023 to understand the challenges and opportunities for improved emergency services in the greater White Salmon region, and to provide independent research, analysis, and recommendations on improving regional emergency capabilities and services. This effort builds on the recommendations of a Klickitat County Fire District 3 citizen task force convened in 2013.

The fundamental questions the City and Fire District asked the Task Force to address were:

1. Are the current levels of services being provided meeting community expectations?
2. Are there advantages to addressing current emergency service needs on a regional basis for the greater White Salmon community?

What follows are the Task Force's responses to these two questions.

B. FINDINGS

QUESTION 1:

Are the current levels of services being provided meeting community expectations?

The Task Force has concluded that the current levels of preparedness and services are not sufficient to meet current expectations and future community needs.

Background:

The Chief Fire Officers in both Fire District 3 (KCFD3) and White Salmon (WSFD) are professionals, either full or part-time, and there is part-time professional administrative support for each organization.¹ All other needs in both the fire district and department are served by volunteers from the community, as in most small towns and rural areas. Our community is fortunate to have fellow citizens volunteering their time to train and assist in times of distress and emergency.

Effective response to an emergency event is based on the number of responders and the training of those responding. The training and number relate directly to the safety of the community and the volunteers. At current levels of volunteers, there are not enough people to show up to each emergency, and the loss of only a few volunteers would significantly affect response safety and effectiveness. Neither participating entity has adopted training standards for any position, nor training attendance requirements for safe and effective participation in emergency events. Current training levels for volunteers do not meet state requirements and are not sufficient to provide consistently safe responses for our volunteers or to the many different kinds of emergencies that can occur in our community.

Following are findings identified by the task force:

- A. **Volunteer Recruitment, Training and Retention** – There are currently not enough well-trained volunteers in the KCFD3 and WSFD to ensure adequate emergency response. Training is what turns our volunteer emergency service responders from altruistic, well-meaning individuals into an effective emergency response team. This will require a staffing commitment to a dedicated, skilled, proactive, and consistent recruiting and training program. We believe this

¹ Fire District 3 has a full-time professional Fire Chief, and two half-time office staff. The White Salmon Fire District has a part-time professional Fire Chief and relies on the City for administrative services.

training program should be organized based on volunteers' ease of participation and structured to promote certifications and state standards.

- B. **Leadership** – Currently both departments see strong leadership in the Chief Officer position. There is leadership within the volunteer staff, but it is limited by the need to recruit, train, and retain volunteers to fill those middle leadership positions over the long-term. Volunteer leadership is a critical component to group and individual training as well as mentorship. Training should focus on the development of volunteer leaders with certification benchmarks and training requirements.
- C. **Threats** - The fire threat in the community has increased exponentially. With a rising population, residential growth into wild land areas, and longer, more severe fire seasons we're on the precipice of a real problem. Over 70% of all fires occurring in the United States are "human caused"². Rural emergency response is statistically the most hazardous to responders. The threats go beyond preventing and fighting fires. The majority of emergency calls are medical in nature. With an aging population, these calls will increase in the future. For all of these threats, our responders need to have the tools, training and an "effective response force" to be safe and return to their families at the end of the day.
- D. **Data & Reporting to Track Performance and Continuously Improve** - Washington law requires every rural fire district to have a written policy with service delivery goals, including response times, and strive to meet their performance goals at least 80% of the time. They are also required to report annually on their performance.³ Currently neither fire department has fully addressed these requirements. A well-run organization can document its performance with data, which would allow accountability to the community and inform ongoing improvement in fire and emergency response. Currently, neither WSFD or KCFD3 appears to track performance data in a form that meaningfully enables an assessment of performance.
- E. **Community Education & Engagement** - It is recognized that this is a rural community with all the challenges that presents for our first responders. Training and participating in community-wide hazard prevention programs and enabling

² National Fire Protection Association

³ RCW 52.33.030 and 52.33.040

the community to better help themselves is an essential part of creating a community that is strong, connected, and resilient.

F. **Improving Coordination & Coverage with Emergency Medical Services (EMS)** –

There appear to be significant gaps in the county-wide EMS system coverage, with times in which there is no ambulance available to respond to emergencies in the West Klickitat County area. There appears to be little to no communication or coordination with WSFD or KCFD3 when this occurs. The Klickitat County EMS system had over 6 days with no EMS units available in our community in 2022. Better coordination between the fire district, department and county EMS services is essential to provide coverage when an ambulance is needed.

QUESTION 2:

Are there advantages to addressing current emergency services on a regional basis for the greater WS community?

Yes, the broader community of White Salmon and Klickitat Fire District 3 would benefit from approaching emergency services through a regional approach.

Background:

Currently, Klickitat Fire District 3 and the White Salmon and Bingen fire departments all serve the same regional community, but each have their own fire chief, facilities, equipment, volunteers, administration, and programs. They are funded separately. But, by agreement, they each respond to the same emergencies for mutual aid. In the past, they have coordinated and collaborated on training and equipment, but inconsistently. While they serve the same community, there is a lack of system-wide coordinated planning, volunteer recruitment and training, equipment purchases and administration. This leads to a duplication of efforts and investments, and a missed opportunity to respond to emergencies most effectively and efficiently.

Between the fire district and department, there are different funding sources and structures, leading to inconsistent fire and emergency response funding for the region. This makes it difficult to plan for the future, and offer the most consistent, effective response. The White Salmon Fire Department is funded through the annual city budget from its General Fund in varying annual amounts. Klickitat Fire District 3 covers a large area outside of and surrounding the city limits and is funded through a levy included in property taxes. This provides a consistent annual budget, but one that is unable to keep up with inflation due to a 1% limit on annual increases. We believe a single, regional fire district (called a Regional Fire Authority)⁴ with unified leadership, training and recruiting

⁴ RCW 52.26

programs, volunteers, facilities and equipment would better serve our community by providing the most coordinated planning and response and eliminating redundancies. This would also enable consistent, reliable funding through a single funding source for the region through property taxes.

Following are findings identified by the task force that can be met through a regional approach:

- A. **Consistent Funding for Regional Fire & Emergency Response** - Funding approaches are fundamentally different between the White Salmon Fire Department and Klickitat Fire District 3. A Regional Fire Authority would provide consistent annual funding needed to set up and establish a rigorous long-term budget to include the programs essential to running an effective community-focused Volunteer Fire District for the region.
- B. **Knowledgeable, Accountable Fire Commission Leadership** - Currently, the White Salmon City Council oversees the White Salmon Fire Department, while the Klickitat Fire District 3 Commission oversees its operations. A city council has many competing areas of focus, and, understandably, does not necessarily have expertise in fire and emergency services. A Regional Fire Authority (RFA) is governed by an elected commission, which is focused only on providing excellent fire and emergency services for the community and is accountable to the voters for achieving that goal.
- C. **Long-Term Budgeting** – Inclusion of essential programs into a yearly and long-term budget, based on reliable, stable annual funding enables a district to build effective long-term programs and plan for the future. Specifically, a stable funding source and long-term budgeting would enable the district to provide more effective resources for volunteer recruitment, a robust training program, leadership development and community education. Additionally, funding for large capital purchases can be included in long-term budgets to limit the risk of operational funding going to capital expenditures.
- D. **Eliminate Redundancies and Improve Capabilities** – Currently WSFD and KCFD3 have rolling equipment that is redundant and could be converted to equipment that would provide additional capability to the department. Back-up equipment needs can also be simplified, and equipment standards and needs can be applied and sourced across a single RFA.

- E. **Simplify Reciprocal Agreements** – Between each department there are agreements that outline how chain of command, equipment and leadership is addressed in emergency responses with both departments. These become unnecessary and simplify the complex task of an emergency response by enabling one unified response plan.

C. COMMUNITY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

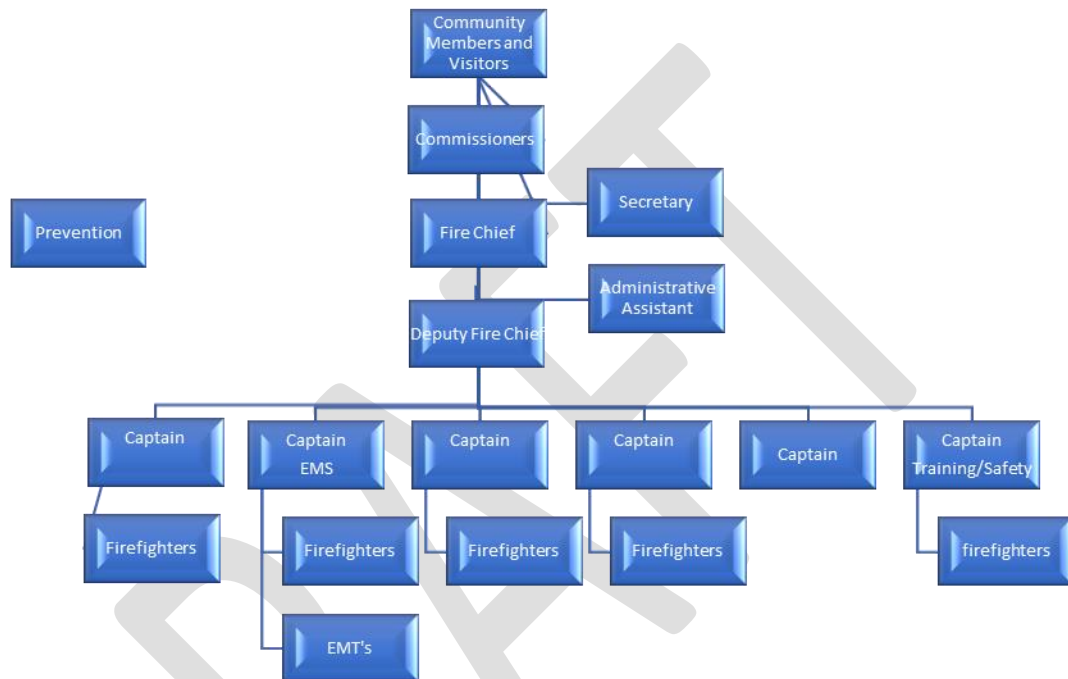
Following are the Task Force’s recommendations to improve emergency services for this community. These recommendations include the creation of a Regional Fire Authority to enable more coordinated, effective regional response and avoid duplication of equipment and programs.

- A. **Create a Regional Fire Authority under RCW 52.26** - Create a Regional Fire Authority (RFA) serving the current areas of WSFD and KCFD3. This should be a new district to take over the tasks of the two above mentioned jurisdictions. Formation of this RFA should simplify the inclusion of additional neighboring departments in the future, should this become desirable.
- B. **Create a Consistent Funding Source for the RFA** - Create a stable, consistent funding source for the Regional Fire Authority through a single property tax levy sufficient to meet the needs identified to provide improved fire and emergency services to the community in the future.
- C. **Create Annual and Long-Term Budgets to Meet Identified Needs** - Create an annual and long-term budget for the new Regional Fire Authority that includes elements to build a strong volunteer department. This should include:
 - 1. Volunteer Recruitment Program
 - 2. Volunteer Training Program
 - 3. Leadership Development Program
 - 4. Community Education and Engagement Program
 - 5. Future Equipment and Facility Needs

- D. **Recruit, Train and Retain an Excellent Corps of Volunteers** – Volunteers are the life blood of rural emergency response. The reasons to volunteer are many and varied, and good recruitment and efforts to support and retain volunteers is essential. To that end we recommend studying implementation of the following efforts.
1. **High School education/training “Cadet” program** – participants in the full curriculum of the program would graduate with fire certifications in addition to participating with the Fire District. (See Lyle Fire Department program)
 2. **Training** – Training program focused on volunteer needs and availability. Targeted to advance each volunteers’ interests and additional certifications, and to ensure the skills and emergency response within the RFA meet the needs of the community and volunteer safety.
 3. **Leadership** – Advanced training and leadership requirements and opportunities for those interested. Should include tuition and travel.
 4. **Compensation** – Volunteer compensation needs to be consistent with the effort and expenses of volunteers.
 5. **Community Engagement** – Starts and stops with the volunteers. Publicly visible, inviting, knowledgeable, and educated community engagement improves local emergency prevention and response.
- E. **Create Performance Goals, Publicly Track Data & Report Annually** – Create performance goals, and a system to meaningfully track, measure and document emergency response in the RFA. Annually report on performance transparently and publicly with a plan for continuous improvement. In addition, an effort should be made to align the reporting standards amongst other coordinated agencies such as Klickitat EMS, Bingen Fire & Lyle Fire for a more complete view of all emergency services rendered.
- F. **Coordination & Coverage with Emergency Medical Services (EMS)** – Given the significant gaps in the county-wide EMS system coverage, the RFA should negotiate a reciprocal agreement with the county to coordinate EMS resources and dispatch for improved coverage. It should also consider how to best provide its own ambulance service, given that Fire District 3 has an underused ambulance in its fleet.

- G. **Offset White Salmon Resident Property Taxes** - When a new Regional Fire Authority is created, the City funding that has been provided for the White Salmon Fire Department in the past will no longer be spent on the fire department. However, City residents will have a new line item in their property taxes to pay for the Regional Fire Authority. Therefore, we recommend that the City of White Salmon reduce resident property taxes for the City by at least half to partially offset the increase in resident property taxes to pay for the new Regional Fire Authority.
- H. **Provide Community Education and Engagement** – The Regional Fire Authority should be responsible for taking the lead on education and engagement with the community on several fronts.
1. Wildfire risks and prevention
 2. Emergency response expectations
 3. CPR/First aid

WKRFA Chain of Command



RESOLUTION 1997-1-204

WHEREAS, the City of White Salmon is interested in obtaining short term financing for construction of a facility for the Public Works Department/City Shop;

WHEREAS, White Salmon voters have recently approved general obligation bonds to provide the financing mechanism for a Fire Hall and Fire Truck;

WHEREAS, the Fire Hall and Public Works Department/City Shop will be housed in one structure;

WHEREAS, the White Salmon City Council has determined that the public interest will be served by constructing the Public Works Department/City Shop simultaneously with the construction of the Fire Hall.

NOW, THEREFORE, the White Salmon City Council resolves as follows:

The mayor of the City of White Salmon is authorized to sign a Promissory Note on behalf of the City of White Salmon in the approximate amount of \$200,000 for a term not to exceed 66 months, at an interest rate not to exceed 5.5 percent per annum.

The mayor is authorized to pledge water and sewer revenues of the City of White Salmon as collateral for the loan.

APPROVED by the White Salmon City Council this 22nd day of January, 1997.

CITY OF WHITE SALMON
Roger Holen, Mayor

Attest:

Kelly A. Ingraham, CPA
Kelly Ingraham, CPA
Clerk-Treasurer

Approved as to form:

Deborah M. Phillips, P.C.
White Salmon City Attorney

Election Date: August 1, 2023
Jurisdictions Submitting Measure: Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3
City of White Salmon
Contact Name: _____
Contact Phone Number: _____

PROPOSITION NO. 1
PROPOSED FORMATION OF WEST KLICKITAT REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY
BALLOT ISSUE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT
(250 Word Limit)

After receiving a strong recommendation from the Citizens Task Force to find a method to improve fire, rescue and emergency medical services in the Fire District and the City, the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire District No. 3 jointly prepared and approved a Plan to formally create and merge the fire/rescue/emergency medical operations of the City and Fire District into a Regional Fire Protection Authority (“RFA”) under chapter 52.26. RCW.

If voters approve Proposition 1, Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and the City of White Salmon will create the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority effective September 30, 2023. The WKRFA will operate under a single governing board consisting of three elected commissioners from Klickitat County Fire District #3 and two White Salmon elected City Council members. The WKRFA will be funded by a property tax of \$.76 and not to exceed \$1.50 per thousand of assessed valuation to be levied in 2023 and collected in 2024. The WKRFA property tax will replace the Fire District tax levy and will reduce the tax capacity of the City.

The WKRFA is designed to improve emergency response times and to create efficiencies by avoiding duplication in administrative, operations, training and other activities. The RFA also maintains local community identity and control. The WKRFA provides an opportunity for emergency service improvements that are unattainable if the City and Fire District were to operate independently. To view the complete West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority Plan, please visit: _____

Prepared by: Brian K. Snure, Attorney
612 S. 227th St.
Des Moines, WA 98198-6836
(206) 824-5630

JOINT RESOLUTION

**KLICKITAT COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-10**

**CITY OF WHITE SALMON
RESOLUTION NO. 2023-05-562**

A JOINT RESOLUTION of the Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and the City Council of City of White Salmon, providing for the submission to qualified electors of the Fire District and the City, at the August 1, 2023 election to be held in conjunction with the State Primary Election of a proposition that, pursuant to Chapter 52.26 of the Revised Code of Washington, approves a Plan to form a regional fire protection service authority within the boundaries of the Fire District and the City, effective September 30, 2023 and providing for other matters properly related thereto.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, providing an effective fire protection, rescue and emergency medical services requires a collaborative partnership and responsibility among local and regional governments and the private sector; and

WHEREAS, there are efficiencies that can be gained by regionalizing fire protection, rescue and emergency medical service delivery, while maintaining local control; and

WHEREAS, Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 (“Fire District”) and City of White Salmon (“The City”) have a long history of a cooperative approach to meeting the needs of their citizens; and

WHEREAS, The City of White Salmon City Council and Board of Fire Commissioners of Fire District #3 entered into a joint “Fire Action Plan” in July of 2022 designating a Citizens Task Force to examine current levels of service, and thus, the Task Force produced an independent Final Report with recommendations for improvement to the safety and levels of service to the community by regionalizing emergency services; and

WHEREAS, on April 19, 2023 the Board of Commissioners of the Fire District and the City Council of the City formed a Planning Committee to explore the feasibility of

forming a regional fire authority and to draft a regional fire authority plan in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 52.26 RCW; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Committee met and prepared a Plan to create the “West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority” and to govern and finance its operation. The West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority Plan is being formally approved and adopted by each entity pursuant to this Joint Resolution “the Plan.” A copy of the Plan is attached as **Exhibit A** and incorporated by this reference. Copies are also available from the administrative offices of the Fire District and The City; and

WHEREAS, the authority to form a Regional Fire Protection Service Authority is established by Chapter 52.26 RCW and requires that the voters in the area affected by the Plan must approve the Plan and establish the Regional Fire Protection Service Authority.

Therefore, in accordance with the Plan and state law, it is appropriate to place before voters within the Fire District and the City (the proposed service boundaries of the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority) at an election to be held on August 1, 2023 in conjunction with the State Primary Election, a proposition calling for the approval of the Plan and the creation of the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority, to be initially funded by a property tax not to exceed \$0.76 per thousand of assessed valuation.

NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF KLICKITAT COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3 AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITE SALMON, DO HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

RESOLUTION

SECTION 1. – *Adoption of the Plan for the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority.*

The Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and the City Council of the City of White Salmon hereby formally adopt the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority Plan, a true and correct copy of which is attached as **Exhibit A** and incorporated by this reference.

SECTION 2. – *Findings of Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and City of White Salmon.* The Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and the City Council of the City of White

Salmon hereby find that it is in the best interests of the Fire District and The City to submit to the qualified electors of the Fire District and the City at the election to be held on August 1, 2023 in conjunction with the State Primary Election, a proposition to approve the Plan and to create the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority. The Plan authorizes the RFA to be initially funded by a property tax not to exceed \$0.76 per thousand.

If approved by a simple majority of the voters within the boundaries of the proposed Authority voting on the ballot proposition in accordance with RCW 52.26.060, this proposition would create a regional fire protection service authority as provided in chapter 52.26 RCW called the “West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority,” with boundaries coextensive with the boundaries of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and the City of White Salmon, effective September 30, 2023, initially funded as set forth in this Section 2.

SECTION 3. - *Proposition for Voter Submittal.* There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and the City of White Salmon for their ratification or rejection, at the August 1, 2023 election in conjunction with the State Primary Election the question of whether or not the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority should be created in accordance with the Plan. The Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and the City Council of the City of White Salmon hereby requests the Auditor of Klickitat County as *ex-officio* Supervisor of Elections, to call such election and to submit to the voters of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and the City of White Salmon the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot title, pursuant to RCW 52.26.060, as follows:

**KLICKITAT COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 3
CITY OF WHITE SALMON
PROPOSITION 1**

After a receiving a strong recommendation from the Citizens Task Force to find a method to improve fire, rescue and emergency medical services in the Fire District and the City, the City of White Salmon and Klickitat County Fire District No. 3 jointly prepared and approved a Plan to formally create and merge the fire/rescue/emergency medical operations of the City and Fire District into a Regional Fire Protection Authority (“RFA”) under chapter 52.26. RCW.

If voters approve Proposition 1, Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and the City of White Salmon will create the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority effective September 30, 2023. The WKRFA will operate under a single governing board consisting of three elected commissioners from Klickitat County Fire District #3 and two White Salmon elected City Council members. The WKRFA will be funded by a property tax of \$.76 and not to exceed \$1.50 per thousand of assessed valuation to be levied in 2023 and collected in 2024. The WKRFA property tax will replace the Fire District tax levy and will reduce the tax capacity of the City.

The WKRFA is designed to improve emergency response times and to create efficiencies by avoiding duplication in administrative, operations, training and other activities. The RFA also maintains local community identity and control. The WKRFA provides an opportunity for emergency service improvements that are unattainable if the City and Fire District were to operate independently. To view the complete W West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority Plan, please plan visit: _____

Should the Plan to create the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority be approved?

YES []
NO []

SECTION 4. – *Authorize Continued Acts of Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee.* The Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and the City Council of the City of White Salmon hereby authorize the Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee to continue operating on an as needed basis until the effective date of the West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority. The Planning Committee shall function as the governing board for the purposes of carrying out the requirements of Chapter 52.26 RCW until such time as West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority governing board is established pursuant to the Plan on September 30, 2023.

SECTION 5. – *Voter Approval Requirement.* Pursuant to RCW 52.26.060, the measure requires a simple majority vote to be approved.

SECTION 6. – *Voters Pamphlet.* The Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3 and the City Council of the City of White Salmon find and declare that it is in the best interest of the District to have information regarding the ballot

measure included in the local voters' pamphlet. Furthermore, that the appropriate costs thereof shall be shared by the Participating Jurisdictions. The Board of Commissioners and City Council further authorize and direct the Fire Chiefs to provide such information to the County Elections department for inclusion and to take other actions as necessary to that end.

SECTION 7. - *Designation of Individuals to Receive Notices re: Ballot Title.* For purposes of receiving notice of any matters related to the ballot title, as provided in RCW 29A.36.080, the Board of Commissioners of Fire District and the City Council of the City of White Salmon hereby designates their respective Fire Chiefs as the individuals to whom the County Auditor shall provide such notice.

SECTION 8.- *Implementation.* The Fire Chiefs are authorized to implement such administrative procedures as may be necessary to carry out the directives of this legislation, including modifying the text of the “West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority Plan” and the text of the ballot title and any other text, language and/or descriptions relative thereto necessary to conform such ballot title, text, language and/or descriptions to the intent of the parties, consistent with the objectives of this resolution.

SECTION 9. *Copies Filed with the County Auditors.* The Fire Chiefs or designees, are hereby authorized and directed, no later than May 12, 2023, to provide to the County Auditors certified copies of this resolution and the proper Participating Jurisdictions officials are authorized to perform such other duties or take such other actions as are necessary or required by law to the end that the proposition described in this resolution appear on the ballot before the voters of the proposed West Klickitat Regional Fire Authority at the August 1, 2023 election.

SECTION 10 – *Severability.* If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this resolution or the Plan is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this resolution or the Plan.

SECTION 11. - *Ratification.* Any act consistent with the authority and prior to the effective date of this resolution is hereby ratified and affirmed.

SECTION 12. - *Effective Date.* This resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage.

ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Klickitat County Fire Protection District No. 3, Klickitat County, Washington, at an open public meeting of such Board on the 10th day of May 2023, the below commissioners being present and voting.

Thomas Montag, COMMISSIONER

Robert Connor, COMMISSIONER

Charles Virts, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

Rozalind Plumb, DISTRICT SECRETARY

ADOPTED by the Mayor and City Council of City of White Salmon, Klickitat County, Washington, at an open public meeting of such city council on the 10th day of May 2023.

Marla Keethler, Mayor

ATTEST:

Stephanie Porter, Clerk Treasurer

Shawn MacPherson, City Attorney

**2024 PROPOSED
OPERATING BUDGET
BASED ON \$0.69/1000**

5/9/2023
DRAFT

AV	\$	1,432,478,640.00
per 1000	\$	1,432,478.64
	0.69	\$ 988,410.26
	0.07	\$ 100,273.50
Total Levy \$0.76	\$	1,088,683.77

**2024
WKRFA Budget**

White Salmon (2023 Property Tax Revenue)		Total 2024 Est Total Tax Revenue
AV	\$	569,275,356.00
per 1000	\$	569,275.36
0.76479318	\$	435,377.91
		\$ 1,831,825.00

308 91 00 WKRFA ADMIN-OPS EXPENSE FUND		
308 91 00	Beginning Fund Balance	\$ -
308 91 00	Inter-fund transfers out	

2024 WS Fire Budget Est 5% increase from 2023	Percentage of Total Budget
\$ 105,515.55	0.057601327
\$ 25,000.00	
\$ 130,515.55	0.071248918

Salaries			
522 10 10	Stipend -- RFA Governance Board	\$ 33,792.00	See Note 1
522 20 10	Salaries -- Fire/Ops Staff	\$ 314,700.63	See Note 2
522 10 10	Salaries -- Administrative Staff	\$ 105,388.48	
522 10 10	Salaries -- Part-time Staff		
522 10 10	Salaries -- Seasonal Staff		
522 20 10	Stipend -- Volunteer Stipend	\$ 80,000.00	See Note 3
Obj 001 SALARIES		\$ 533,881.11	

\$ -
\$ 18,704.70
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ 11,550.00
\$ 30,254.70

Personnel Benefits			
522 10 20	Benefits -- Governance Board	\$ 1,537.40	
522 20 20	Total benefits Fire/Ops	\$ 102,831.56	
522 10 20	Total Benefits Admin	\$ 33,423.19	
522 20 20	BVFF	\$ 7,310.00	See note 4
522 20 20	Volunteer Insurance (AD&D plus 24)	\$ 9,807.00	See Note 5
522 20 20	Life Flight	\$ 2,950.00	
522 20 20	Service Awards	\$ 3,800.00	
Obj 002 PERSONEL BENFITS		\$ 161,659.15	

\$ -
\$ 7,354.20
\$ 1,795.50
\$ 1,179.15
\$ -
\$ -
\$ 315.00
\$ 10,643.85

disability and pension

522 10 30	Office Supplies	\$ 4,500.00	
522 20 30	Fire Ops Supplies	\$ 2,500.00	
522 20 30	EMS Supplies	\$ 3,000.00	
522 20 30	Haz Mat Supplies		
522 45 30	Fire Training supplies	\$ 3,000.00	See Note 6
522 45 30	Ems Training supplies	\$ 3,000.00	
522 45 30	Sustenance (Training)		
522 30 30	Prevention	\$ 1,700.00	
522 30 30	Pub Ed Supplies	\$ 6,500.00	
522 50 30	Facilities Supplies	\$ 3,900.00	See Note 8
522 20 30	PPE	\$ 40,000.00	See Note 11
522 20 30	Uniforms	\$ 5,000.00	
522 20 30	Sustenance (fire)		
522 20 30	Communications supplies		See Note 9
522 10 30	Printing supplies		
522 10 30	Office Admin Equipment		
522 20 30	Repair & Maint Supplies		
522 20 30	Miscellaneous Supplies	\$ 2,500.00	
522 20 30	Fuel Consumed	\$ 14,200.00	
522 20 30	Small Tools and Minor Equip		

\$ 535.50
\$ 2,625.00
\$ 1,102.50
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ 21,000.00
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ 420.00
\$ 11.55
\$ 551.25
\$ 30,655.80

Obj 003 Supplies		\$ 89,800.00
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Other Services - Charges			
522 10 40	Professional Services Admin(WFCA etc)	\$ 4,150.00	
522 10 40	Professional Services Tech Service	\$ 12,000.00	
522 10 40	Professional Services Web Site	\$ 1,800.00	
522 10 40	Domain	\$ 160.00	
522 10 40	Professional Legal Services	\$ 2,500.00	
522 50 40	Professional Services Landscaping	\$ 2,000.00	
522 10 40	Printing Services	\$ 1,000.00	
522 10 40	Postage and Shipping	\$ 1,500.00	
522 20 40	Testing & Certification	\$ 1,500.00	
522 20 40	Training/ Instructors	\$ 11,000.00	
522 10 40	Lexipol - policy	\$ 4,000.00	
522 10 40	MRSC	\$ 160.00	
522 10 40	Payroll	\$ 3,000.00	
522 20 40	FF Physicals	\$ 3,000.00	See Note 12
522 20 40	AED Service	\$ 150.00	
522 20 40	Amb O2 Hydrotest	\$ 80.00	
522 20 40	EMS Cot service	\$ 750.00	
522 20 40	Emergency Reporting	\$ 3,270.00	
522 10 40	Communications-Postage		
522 10 40	Communication Cellular	\$ 1,800.00	
522 10 40	Communication Zoom	\$ 200.00	
522 20 40	Travel / Mileage	\$ 1,500.00	
522 20 40	Lodging	\$ 2,500.00	
522 10 40	Advertising	\$ 1,000.00	
522 10 40	Insurance	\$ 65,400.00	See Note 7
522 10 40	Admin Rentals & Leases	\$ 50.00	See Note 10

\$ 2,205.00
\$ -
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\$ 1,575.00
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All contract Services
(removed \$7500 of one-time contract)

522 50 30	WSG Utility Services- Sta 30	\$	1,500.00		\$	1,686.30	Not complete bill-only fire portion
522 50 30	WSG Utility Services- Sta 31	\$	650.00		\$	-	
522 50 30	WSG Utility Services- Sta 32				\$	-	
522 50 30	WSG Utility Services- Sta 33				\$	-	
522 50 30	NG Utility Services- Sta 30	\$	2,000.00		\$	1,233.75	Not complete bill-only fire portion
522 50 30	LPG Utility Services- Sta 31	\$	2,500.00		\$	-	
522 50 30	LPG Utility Services- Sta 32	\$	2,000.00		\$	-	
522 50 30	LPG Utility Services- Sta 33				\$	-	
522 50 40	PUD Utility Services- Sta 30	\$	1,000.00		\$	864.15	Not complete bill-only fire portion
522 50 40	PUD Utility Services- Sta 31	\$	4,500.00		\$	-	
522 50 40	PUD Utility Services- Sta 32	\$	2,000.00		\$	-	
522 50 40	PUD Utility Services- Sta 33	\$	1,000.00		\$	-	
522 50 40	IT/Phone Services- Sta 30	\$	4,500.00		\$	-	
522 50 40	IT/Phone Services- Sta 31	\$	5,000.00		\$	-	
522 50 40	IT/Phone Services- Sta 32				\$	-	
522 50 40	IT/Phone Services- Sta 33				\$	-	
522 50 40	Facility Repair and Maint				\$	3,150.00	
522 20 40	Comm Repair and Maint	\$	6,450.00		\$	1,050.00	
522 20 40	Equipment Repair Maint	\$	5,000.00		\$	3,037.65	
522 60 40	Fleet Repair Maintenance	\$	25,000.00		\$	3,150.00	
522 20 40	Miscellaneous	\$	2,000.00		\$	11,074.35	supplies
522 10 40	Professional Dues				\$	1,050.00	Veh/Rep Services
522 20 40	Registrations				\$	-	
522 20 40	use tax		3,000.00		\$	-	
522 00 00	Misc-Interest on Tax Refunds				\$	-	

Obj 004 Professional Services \$ 192,570.00

\$ 30,286.20

Intergov Services

522 10 40	Intergov Prof Services				\$	-	
522 10 40	Election Fees	\$	2,000.00		\$	-	
522 10 40	WA State Auditor fees	\$	7,500.00		\$	-	
522 20 40	Active 9-1-1 fees	\$	1,000.00		\$	-	

\$	-
\$	-
\$	-
\$	-

Obj 005 Intergovernmental Services \$ 10,500.00

\$ -

Capital Outlay					
594 22 60	Buildings & Structures	\$	-		\$ -
594 22 60	Machinery and Equipment	\$	-		\$ 3,675.00
Obj 006 Capital Outlay		\$	-		\$ 3,675.00

Sub 011 WKRFA ADMIN/EXPENSE	\$	988,410.26	988,410.26	0.69 per 1000	\$ 105,515.55
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602 012 WKRFA Replacement Fund					
594 22 50	Apparatus Replacement				\$ 25,000.00
594 22 60	Apparatus refurbish				0
594 22 60	Equipment replacement				0
594 22 60	Equipment refurbish				0
594 22 60	Facility replacement				0
594 22 60	Facility refurbish				0
Obj 006 Capital Outlay					0
Sub 012 WKRFA Replacement Fund TOTAL					
Ending Fund Balance					\$ 25,000.00

Reserve Fund

\$ 130,515.55 Total 2024 estimated budget

602 012 WKRFA Debt Redemption Fund					
Beginning fund balance					
592 22 80	Prof-service: Bond service fee				
592 22 80	Misc-interest: tax refunds				
Obj 004 Other Services and Charges					
591 22 70	Debt Service--Principle		1465.68		
592 22 80	Debt Service--Interest				
Obj 006 Capital Outlay					
Sub 013 WKRFA Debt Redemption Fund TOTAL					
Ending Fund Balance					

602 016 WKRFA Capital Proj Fund					
602 160200	Beginning fund balance				
Supplies					
594 22 60	Printing				
594 22 60	St 1 Tools & Minor Equipment				
Obj 003 Supplies SUBTOTAL					

Professional Services					
592 22 60	Professional Services				
592 22 60	Prof Services Architect				
592 22 60	Professional Services Eng				
592 22 60	Proj Management				
592 22 60	Professional Service Testing				
592 22 60	Professional Service Survey				
592 22 60	Prof Services Legal				
592 22 60	Communications-Postage				
592 22 60	Advertising				
592 22 60	Rentals and leases				
592 22 60	Insurance				
592 22 60	Utility Fee				
592 22 60	Miscellaneous				
Obj 004 Other Services SUBTOTAL					

Intergov Services					
602 16	Intergov Pro Serv				
602 16	Intergov Fees				
602 16	Inter Gov Cap Imp Fee				
Obj 005 Intergovernmental Services SUBTOTAL					

Capital Improvements					
602 16	Site improvements				
602 16	Facility improvements				
602 16	Furnishings				
602 16	Construction				
602 16	Other Improvements				
Obj 006 Capital Improvements SUBTOTAL		\$	-		
Sub 016 WKRFA Capital Projects Fund TOTAL					
Ending Fund Balance					

West Klickitat County
Regional Fire Authority

	<i>Governance Board</i>
	DRAFT 2024 BUDGET
	Explanation of NOTES

*** **Methodology** – Conjoined current operating costs between COWS/KCFD3 and projected predicted costs. Ancillary comments intended to show specifics where needed.

2024 DRAFT RFA BUDGET – EXPENDITURE NOTES		
BUDGET NOTE #	EXPENDITURE LINE ITEM	EXPLANATION
Note 1	522-1010	Six-person Governing Board
Note 2	522-2010	5% OT & COLA for hourly positions. Buffer to support unanticipated leave liability(s). FTE: Fire Chief, Training Officer/ Recruitment, retention, volunteer coordinator position. ½ year FTE: District Secretary (projected) PTE: Admin Assistant.
Note 3	522-2010V	Volunteer Stipend 2024 build volunteer program. Anticipate ~ January 2024 full activation. Current Stipend program to fund volunteer support to build RFA roll-out plan AND extra “activities” for all of 2024. Includes funding to support training efforts for all of 2024. I.e., Fire Academy/EMT Basic, Officer development courses, in-house classes etc. Taskforce Recommendation – final budget totals for 2025 TBD.
Note 4	522-20-20	Conjoined cost- anticipate increases from 2023 numbers to 2024 rates from BVFF and Reserve Officers Fund.
Note 5	522-20 2020	Premium paid every three years – 1/3 budgeted annually as if it’s an annual cost to ensure funding exists.
Note 6	522-45-30	Blended from original FD3 budget. To be refined into BARS format in final budget process.

RFA ASSESSED VALUE

KCFD3	\$	863,203,285.00
WS AV	\$	569,275,356.00
AV	\$	1,432,478,640.00

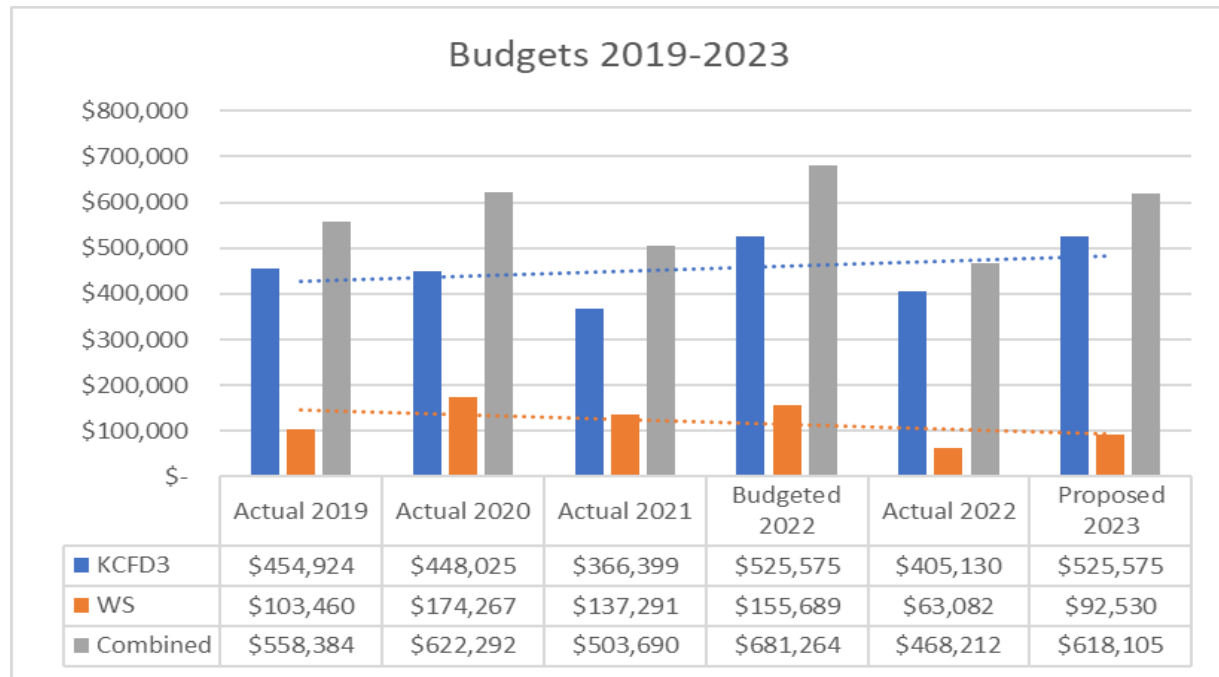
per 1000 = \$ 1,432,478.64

0.07	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	100,273.50
<hr/>				
0.65	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	931,111.12
0.66	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	945,435.90
0.67	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	959,760.69
0.68	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	974,085.48
0.69	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	988,410.26
0.70	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,002,735.05
0.71	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,017,059.83
0.72	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,031,384.62
0.73	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,045,709.41
0.74	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,060,034.19
0.75	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,074,358.98
0.76	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,088,683.77
0.77	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,103,008.55
0.78	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,117,333.34
0.79	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,131,658.13
0.80	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,145,982.91
0.81	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,160,307.70
0.82	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,174,632.48
0.83	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,188,957.27
0.84	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,203,282.06
0.85	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,217,606.84
0.86	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,231,931.63
0.87	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,246,256.42
0.88	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,260,581.20
0.89	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,274,905.99
0.90	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,289,230.78
\$ 0.91	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,303,555.56
\$ 0.92	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,317,880.35
\$ 0.93	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,332,205.14
\$ 0.94	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,346,529.92
\$ 0.95	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,360,854.71
\$ 0.96	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,375,179.49
\$ 0.97	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,389,504.28
\$ 0.98	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,403,829.07
\$ 0.99	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,418,153.85
\$ 1.00	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,432,478.64
\$ 1.01	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,446,803.43
\$ 1.02	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,461,128.21
\$ 1.03	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,475,453.00
\$ 1.04	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,489,777.79
\$ 1.05	\$	1,432,478.64	\$	1,504,102.57

Assessed Value and Budget Information

OPERATING BUDGET

2023	Assessed Values	Property tax/Budget	per 1000	Rate
KCFD3	\$ 863,203,285	\$ 528,664.11	\$ 863,203.29	0.61244
WS	\$ 569,275,356	\$ 92,530.00	\$ 569,275.36	0.16254
combined	\$ 1,432,478,641	\$ 621,194	\$ 1,432,479	\$ 0.77



Reserves	Invested	committed	Available
WSFD			\$ 315,000.00 ?
KCFD3 reserves	\$ 1,198,294.95	\$ 420,414.65	\$ 777,880.30 ?
Total			\$ 1,092,880.30

Unfunded Liabilities

	projected replacement \$	beginning balance(?)	Annual \$ to am'tize	levy rate
Apparatus Replacement	\$ 8,752,326	\$ 529,000	\$ 765,721	0.53
Equipment Replacement	\$ 3,110,607	\$ 196,100	\$ 214,892	0.15
Facilities Replacement K3	\$ 1,513,422	\$ 86,000	\$ 52,643	0.04
Facilities ReplacementWS	\$ 1,294,462	\$ -	\$ 59,611	0.04
Total	\$ 14,670,817	\$ 811,100	\$ 1,092,867	0.76